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SECRET

1500 hr.

NPIC/D-182-65  
1 September 1965X 3308 }  
4 FOR PDS }

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Collection Guidance Staff, DDI

SUBJECT: Use of Overhead Photography for Agricultural Estimating Purposes

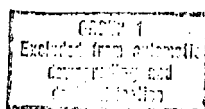
REFERENCE: Memo from DDI Collection Staff to Director, NPIC, dated 2 August 1965

1. Sufficient experience by a number of government agencies, private companies and individuals exists to substantiate the thesis that overhead photography can be used as a reliable means for making various determinations about the amount and condition of a variety of crops. The U. S. Department of Agriculture, through its Production and Marketing Administration (P&MA) for years has taken aerial photographic inventories of agricultural production throughout the United States. Their techniques, though largely manual and supplemented by considerable field checking, seem to be quite sufficient for their purposes, which in many respects appear to be similar to those of the DDI.

2. It should be noted that at present the NPIC R&D budget includes investigatory work in areas which have potential application to the agricultural problem, such as automatic scanning techniques. While the initiative for such R&D work was generated by other than agricultural requirements upon the Center, certainly successes in this and related developmental areas would apply in some degree to all photographic analysis and mensuration problems.

3. As you are well aware, the Center provides only advisory service, mainly of a technical nature, to those responsible for camera systems developments. Since, however, our developmental program is heavily responsive to requirements anticipated from the use of sophisticated camera systems, our technical personnel must keep abreast of developments in this area. They are acquainted with many novel camera configurations, including those designed primarily for agricultural use.

Declass Review By NIMA/DOD




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Estimating Purposes**

4. I would suggest that persons in the DDI responsible for estimating acreage and yields of agricultural crops meet with our R&D people to review those portions of the current and planned research which appear to be even indirectly aligned with such problems. Following this I believe we can take a more meaningful look at what can and should be done additionally to strengthen the effort for your benefit.

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Technical Advisor to the  
Director, NPIC

cc: Chief, IAD/CIA

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Standard Form 63  
November 1961  
GSA Gen. Reg. No. 27

MEMORANDUM OF CALL

Date

Time

TO-

JWC

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